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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/579,365	05/15/2006	Min-won Kim	1203-105	2990
24106	7590	02/27/2009	EXAMINER	
EGBERT LAW OFFICES 412 MAIN STREET, 7TH FLOOR HOUSTON, TX 77002			MELLON, DAVID C	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1797	
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			02/27/2009	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<i>Office Action Summary</i>	Application No. 10/579,365	Applicant(s) KIM, MIN-WON	
	Examiner DAVID C. MELLON	Art Unit 1797	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 1/15/2009.
2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 3 and 4 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 3 and 4 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 3 is objected to because of the following informalities:
 - On line 20 of claim 3, there is a typographical error: "deceasing" should be "decreasing".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. Claims 3-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

The recitation of "O-ring being movable so as to close said guide passage" is new matter.

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 3-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claim 3, the recitation of the phrase "O-ring being movable so as to close said guide passage" renders the claim indefinite because it is not understood

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whether the O-ring itself moves to close the guide passage or whether the fluid flow interrupting means which has the O-ring affixed to it is moved.

Claim 3 recites the limitation "outlet" in line 6. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. The claim is rendered indefinite because there was no prior recitation of an "outlet".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 3-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Reid et al. (USP 5,591,332).

Regarding claim 3, Reid et al. discloses a fluid filtering assembly (abstract) with an automatic shut-off and quick connect filter cartridge (title) in figures 1-4 comprising:

- A head (10) having a guide passage (138) and an inlet port (46) and an outlet port (48), said guide passage suitable for guiding fluid into said head through said inlet port, said outlet port suitable for discharging purified fluid from said head (C4/L20-50)
- A filter body (60) threadedly locked to said head (C4/L45-50 -"threaded"), said filter body in fluid communication with said guide passage and said inlet port and said outlet so as to receive fluid from said guide passage

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and said inlet port and to transfer purified fluid to said outlet port (C7/L30-50)

- A fluid flow interrupting means disposed in said guide passage (piston 18 and valve stem 20) said fluid flow interrupting means having a fluid guide rod formed at one end thereof (18), said fluid flow interrupting means having an opening and closing body connected at one end thereof to said fluid guide rod (stem 20 connected via spring 22), said opening and closing means having a gradually decreasing diameter (see in figure 2, diameter decreases as it goes down) with an o-ring fitted therearound adjacent one end thereof (37 - seal, a seal around piston 20 will have a bore through the center of it since it is seated in seal seat 106 and thus is considered equivalent to an o-ring) and an opening and closing projection formed adjacent an opposite end thereof (109)
- Said fluid flow interrupting means having an elastic spring cooperative with said guide passage for controllably opening and closing said guide passage by force of said elastic spring when said head and said filter body are coupled and uncoupled from each other (22, see also C8/L45-C9/L5)
- Said filter body having at least one through hole defined at an upper end thereof so as to allow fluid from said guide passage and said inlet port to flow into said filter body (140)

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- Said guide passage having a hollow cylindrical protuberance formed at one end thereof, having an inner diameter greater than outer diameter of the guide rod and having a gradually decreasing diameter (18 and 138)
- Said guide rod inserted through one end of said elastic spring, said elastic spring having another end fitted around said hollow protuberance (see in figure 2)
- Said o-ring (seal 37) being movable to close said guide passage so as to interrupt a flow of fluid therethrough (guide rod moves when filter is disengaged, thus moving the seal).

Regarding claim 4, Reid et al. further discloses a bracket (44) coupled to an outer surface of said head (surface 62, coupled with bolts, C4/L50-65) and an opposite end suitable for fastening to a wall (C4/L50-65 - "for mounting the filter assembly onto a wall or grating")

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 3 and 4 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection in view of Reid et al..

Conclusion

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DAVID C. MELLON whose telephone number is (571)270-7074. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday 7:00am-4:30pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Sample can be reached on (571) 272-1376. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Tony G Soohoo/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1797

/D. C. M./
Examiner, Art Unit 1797